REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for telephone interview during which the Examiner explained that the previous rejections would be maintained because the prior amendment did not adequately distinguish the claims over the Todaka reference. By this Amendment, Applicants have modified the independent claims to further require that the image output signals and output from the shutter operation for a plurality of pixels pass through a common transistor. Todaka actually teaches away from the present invention and requires yet additional transistors than the design described and claimed in the instant application. More specifically, in Todaka, the signals are transferred through different transistors.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 1, 2004

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